GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2343
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2008
WATER CHARGES
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Water Policy, 2006 stipulates that water charges for various uses should be fixed in such a way that they cover at least the operation and maintenance charges of providing service initially and a part of the capital costs subsequently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES(SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c) The National Water Policy, 2002 states that there is need to ensure that the water charges for various uses should be fixed in such a way that they cover at least the operation and maintenance charges of providing the service initially and a part of the capital costs subsequently. The National Water Policy, 2002 further states that these rates should be linked directly to the quality of service provided and the subsidy on water rates to the disadvantaged and poorer sections of the society should be well targeted and transparent. The State Water Policies adopted by the State Governments have also necessary provision in this regard. Necessary action have also been taken by several State Governments towards revision of water rates.